Central Board ot Sccondary Eductaion for classes IX to XII. Changes if any, have been informed to the Vidyalayas.

(d) and (e) Do not arise,

Status of Sanskrit language

5115. SHRI SOM PAL :

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN HL-SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sanskrit is one of the oldesl and most developed languages of the world ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Sanskrit has been found to be very suitable for use in computers ;

(c) if so, what is being done for the promotion of Sanskrit studies and re search in India ;

(d) what is the current status of Sanskrit in the following matters (i) total number of students studying at various levels; (ii) number of Sanskrit universities and universities having teaching and research facilities; (iii) foreign countriesi and universities offering Sanskrit studies; and (iv) International cooperation, if any, in the field of Sanskrit studies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An exploratory study in the area of Sanskrit for Computational rendering of Paninian grammar and machine translation has been started.

(d) (i) 4753 students are reading Sanskiit in the organisilions under the control of this Ministry. Detailed information about the strengah of students sludying Sanskiit at various levels is not available with Government.

(ii) There are three Sanskrit Universities and two Deemed to be Univcrsities. Besides, Sanskrit teaching 'research faculties are available in 67 Universities/ Deemed Universities.

(iii) The information is no! available with Government.

(iv) Intel national Sanskrit Confcrenccs are organised from time to time.

Study on girl student by Wasliingfon-Based Research Group

5116. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDF. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAIJU .

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the editorial report in the Indian Express, quotling a Wolldwide study by a Washington-based research group, to the effect that fewer girls get into schools compared to boys and that Indian record was particuiany disnral ;

(b) if so, what percentage of girls stay-ed away from schools in the world and in India according to the said research group report, and how these figures agiee with India's own assessment ; and

(c) what steps are being taken tmder the Eighth Five Year Plan to improve ths situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) No such report is available with the Government. However, as far as India is concerned, according to Selected Educ.;-tional Statistics (1992-93) printed by the Ministry out of 7.62 crores girl: in the age group 6-14 years, 5.99 crore, were enrolled in primary and apper primany schools.

The national policy on Education as revised in 1992, resolves that all Children upto 14 years of age are to be provided elemcntiiry education before we enter the 21st Century. Towards this end, the pro-gramme of action, 1992 which was laid on the table of both the Houses of Parliament on]9lh August, 1992 stresses the following measures :